



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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August 16, 2006

**FORMER SPECIAL AGENT FOUND GUILTY ON CHARGES OF MAKING FALSE
STATEMENTS**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced today that a federal jury in El Paso, Texas, found Hardrick "Drick" Crawford, Jr., formerly the Special Agent in Charge of the FBI's El Paso Division, guilty of making false statements in violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1001.

"FBI Special Agents carry the tradition of one of the finest law enforcement agencies in the world. When a Special Agent betrays those he is entrusted to protect, he will be held accountable," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

Earlier this year, Crawford was charged in a five count indictment. Today, he was found guilty on two of the five counts. The jury found him guilty of counts 2 and 3, the concealment of material facts from the FBI regarding his association with Juarez, Mexico racetrack owner Jose Maria Guardia and of making false statements in the Office of Government Ethics Public Financial Disclosure Reports submitted to the FBI for calendar year 2002 and regarding gifts he received from Guardia.

Crawford was acquitted of counts 1,4, and 5 which charged him with making false statements in an FBI electronic communication regarding his association with Guardia, making a false statement to the Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General during an agency investigation, and making false statements in Office of Government Ethics Public Financial Disclosure Reports submitted to the FBI for calendar year 2003 and regarding gifts he received from Guardia.

Each count carries a potential sentence of up to 5 years confinement and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing is scheduled for November 9, 2006, at 8:00 a.m.

The Department of Justice-Office of the Inspector General is the investigative agency. The FBI referred this matter to the Inspector General and cooperated fully throughout the investigation. This case is being prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Jim Blankinship.

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